



Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings

Independent | Very Accessible | Expert

Mission: We independently resolve administrative disputes through accessible, fair, prompt processes and issue sound decisions. *Holding independent, fair hearings since 1982*

Vision:

We offer a convenient, easy to navigate system to request and receive fair, impartial hearings on appeals of government actions. Washingtonians and government agencies trust OAH as the best neutral adjudicative forum to resolve administrative disputes.

History:

The Legislature created OAH in 1981, adopting the recommendation of the Washington State Bar Association Administrative Law Task Force to “*improve the appearance of fairness*” in the administrative hearing process.

The Legislature also intended administrative hearings to be easily accessible for the public: *“Hearings shall be conducted with the greatest degree of informality consistent with fairness and the nature of the proceeding.”*

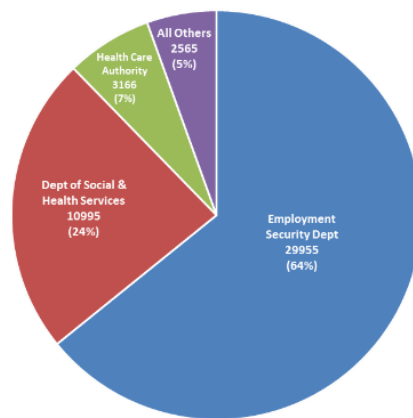
RCW 34.12.010

Please visit our website

WWW.OAH.WA.GOV

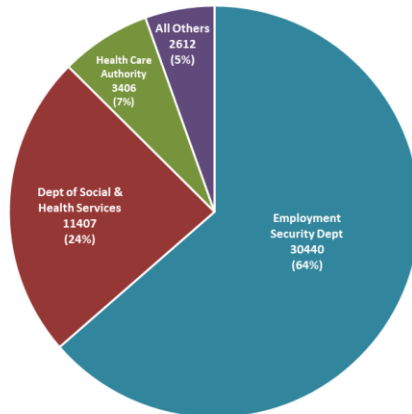
Why we hold hearings: So that citizens and businesses who disagree with decisions made by state and some local government agencies have the opportunity to be heard. The Administrative Law Judge presiding over the hearing issues a written order deciding whether to affirm, modify or reverse the agency decision.

Number of Cases Received in FY 2020 – 46,681



All Other Agencies	# Received	# Closed
Dept of Children, Youth & Families	1320	1467
Labor & Industries	371	299
Superintendent of Public Instruction	272	274
Liquor & Cannabis Board	120	142
Gambling Commission	54	62
Dept of Financial Institutions	30	32
Office of Insurance Commissioner	25	28
Washington State University	25	22
Department of Licensing	17	19
Washington State Patrol	15	11
OMWBE	7	10
Other Agencies	299	246

Number of Cases Closed in FY 2020 – 47,865



New 2020 Caseloads/Programs:

- ESD Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML)
- Labor & Industries Apprenticeship Training Council
- Dept of Fish & Wildlife

Highlights:

- New electronic filing rule, WAC 10-08-110, effective date April 6, 2020
- Secure email transmission option in response to COVID-19 crisis
- Participant portal launch April 2020 for parties to access their case records
- Established new Ethics Advisory Committee May 2020

OAH Workforce:

- 116 Administrative Law Judges
- 80 Field Office Support and HQ Administrative Staff

